bervilles.

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GARRICK THEATRE—8:20—Never Again.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—On Broadway.

HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8:15—An American Beauty.

HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—The Girl fron Paris,
HOYTS THEATRE—8:30—My Friend from India,
IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8 Countess Fritzl.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8. The Serenade.
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LYCEUM THEATRE—8:15—The Mayflower.
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Sportsmen's Exposition.

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MURRAY HILL THEATRE S.—Old Lavender.

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PASTORS-12:30 to 11 p. m. -Vandeville.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1897.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS .- Both branches of the LVth Concongress.—Both branches of the Livin Congress met in extraordinary session and listened to the reading of President McKinley's first Message. ——Senate: No business beyond swearing in one new Senator was transacted. ——House: Speaker Reed and the other officers of the last House were re-elected; the Tariff bill was introduced and Committees on Rules, Ways and Means and Mileage were appointed.

Means and Mileage were appointed.

FOREIGN.—The French Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 356 to 142, decided in favor of common action by the Powers in reference to Crete. The condition of things in the island is growing more serious, and in some districts anarchy prevalls. —— A gun exploded on a Russian turretship in Cretan waters, killing fifteen men, including two officers, and wounding many others. —— A band of predatory Albanians, which had pillaged and burned a number of villages, was driven nd burned a number of villages, was driven back after crossing the Servian frontier. The Laurada was seen last Wednesday heading for Cuba, and has probably landed a cargo of

DOMESTIC .- The text of the Tariff bill prepared by the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee was made public, to-gether with an explanation of its provisions by Chairman Dingley. — None of the important bills agreed on at the Fifth Avenue Hotel con-ference on Sunday were introduced in the Legis-lature. — The Sheldon murder trial at Aulature. — The Sheidon murder that at Au-burn was ended with a verd.ct of guilty. — Governor Black decided to sign the Massachu-setts warrant for the extradition of lasigi, the Turkish Consul at Boston, under arrest in this city. — The Boston Rubber Shoe Company and the Rubber Trust cut their price lists from 12 to 16 per cent.

CITY.—The payments of duties at the New-York Custom House were the largest on record.

The monitor Puritan was towed into port after a lively time at sea. — The Interstate Commerce Commission began an investigation of charges made by the Produce Exchange against the Joint Traffic Association. — A charge of corruption was made against Acting Captain by the corruption was made against Acting Captain Petty, of the Charles-st, police station, by the keeper of an alleged disorderly house in Greenwich-ave. ——It was learned that the Rev. Dr. E. C. Bolles had resigned as pastor of the Church of the Eternal Hope, ____ Stocks were strong

THE WEATHER -Forecast for to-day: Fair, showery to-night. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 43 degrees: lowest, 35; average, 38.

THE NEW MESSAGE AND TARIFF.

The new era begins, as it ought, with quick, sharp work. One half day sufficed to organize a Republican Congress, to receive from a Republican fidence. lican President a short business Message, and to have presented a well-matured Tariff bill for immediate action. Platitudes and formalities have years of error begins on the instant, as a mighty electric button. The contrast will impress the bring nearer the restoration of prosperity. minds of men of action and men of work every-

The President wastes not one word in introduction. He shows that the Nation, with unlimited resources at command, yet presents the remarkable spectacle of borrowing money to meet ordinary outlays. He cites the records: 1892, surplus \$9,914,454, and \$40,570,468 debt paid; 1863 surplus \$2,341,674; 1894, deficit \$69,803,261; tempestuously across the prairies for the last 1895, deficit \$42,805,223; 1896, deficit \$25,203,246; four or five years, is not content, if we have cor-1897, eight months' deficit \$48,249,850; in three years and eight months, deficit \$186,061,586; money borrowed, \$293,454,285, by issue of bonds for \$262,315,400, increasing the annual interest | the land adjoining. We use the masculine procharge \$11,493,414, or more than one-half since noun for convenience; as a matter of fact, the 1802. Then he says: "Ample means must be sup-"plied, not only for the ordinary expenses of the "Government, but for the prompt payment of "liberal pensions and the liquidation of the prin- define the purpose of the gathering, but gave a are also determined to do all in their power to "cipal and interest of the public debt," and he very vivid though brief account of what took closes: "Before other business is transacted, let place. It opens with the statement that the "us first provide sufficient revenue to faithfully "administer the Government without the con- from which we infer that the only business "tracting of further debt or the continued disturb-"ance of our finances."

rhetoric on questions which are not the business die of the road, we have no idea. Doubtless latter principles prevailed, Sultan, Czar and Kai of the hour. But on the mode of increasing revenue the President is just as frank, manly and other communities, where the rule of the road before to-day's sun goes down. For that same explicit as he was every day at Canton when addressing the people:

Duties should be so levied upon foreign products as to preserve the home market, so far as pos-sible, to our own producers; to revive and in-crease manufactures; to relieve and encourage crease manufactures; to reneve and encoding agriculture; to increase our domestic and foreign commerce; to aid and develop mining and building, and to render to labor in every field of useful occupation the liberal wages and adequate rewards to which skill and industry are justly en-

There is not a trace of small anxiety about the restoration of particular duties, but not a shade of hesitation in the proposal that the Tariff of 1897 shall do for the country, in the conditions that now exist, precisely what the Tariff of 1890 did do for the country. If different schedules will now reach the same or better results, then different schedules. At any rate, public prosperity by protection and upbuilding of home industries. This is the first Message of President Mc-Kinley to Congress, be it remembered. The utter absence of fuss or formality, of partisanship, or even of argument regarding the principles for which the people have decided, is the characteristic feature of this opening of a new era. May in any other than a Middle-of-the-Road convenit not be said with reason that in its very man-

ner of going to work there is inspiration?

which is now published. The veteran who will fill the position of leader in the House, which Major McKinley filled in 1890, explains its provisions and purposes with his usual clearness and brevity. In the first year of its operation it will yield from \$70,000,000 to \$75,000,000 additional and into the middle of next week. revenue, he estimates, which will not only stifle the deficit, but provide for at least a beginning of debt reduction, instead of debt creation. This estimate, as respects the first year, necessarily depends in some measure upon the promptness with which Congress acts. If months are wasted in talk, or in coquetting with men who represent great monopolies, or in struggles for individual rather than National benefit, every one knows that those months will be used to anticipate duties by quick and large imports, and thus to deprive the Government of part of the revenue which the measure itself, if promptly passed,

would secure. The measure shows that the spirit of conservatism and moderation has prevailed wherever there was not found clear reason for going beyond the duties now in force. Thus in the two schedules affecting the two great iron and cotton industries, Mr. Dingley states that the present duties are very little changed, and only in the more advanced products. The rapid comparison as yet possible shows that in many paragraphs the present duties on chemicals are not advanced. On the other hand, in the glass and earthenware schedule duties are advanced, perhaps no more than Democratic Senators themselves in 1894 promised to advance them, when convinced of their fatal error. In these, and the agricultural and wool schedules alone, Mr. Dingley states, "are the duties of the act of 1890 fully "restored, as a rule, and in a few cases increased, "with the view of amply protecting and encour-"aging our farming interests at every possible "point." The transfer of important kinds of foreign wool from the carpet to the clothing schedule, because they have come to be used in place of clothing wool, should remove one material objection which wool-growers have raised, and in other provisions also the proposed tariff will give them better protection than was secured by that of 1890, under which they were able greatly to increase their annual yield and the number of their flocks.

The most important feature of the new measure is its general substitution of specific instead of fraud-inviting ad valorem duties. No other change could be of greater importance to the revenue, and as Chairman Dingley states, it is also a change which has been most urgently desired by the better class of importers. So many of them have been nearly driven out of their own business by the frauds which they were not ready to perpetrate, but which the act of 1894 made it the chief business of a horde of so-called importers to contrive, that the change will be to them a blessing far outweighing any disadvantage resulting from mere increase of duties. To the Treasury this change alone probably means more than the average annual deficit of fifty millions. To the American producers it means all the difference between genuine protection and wholesale prostration of manufactures by false onths and unrestricted imports.

Chairman Dingley shows that a large increase of revenues is sought by transferring lumber, opium, argols, art works, straw goods, burlaps and some other articles from the free to the dutiable list, by increasing duties on farm products now affected by Canadian competition, and on such luxurles as liquors, tobacco, silks and laces, and especially by increasing the duty on raw sugar in the belief that its production in this country can now be successfully encouraged. He explains with care the conflicting influences which will tend to affect the estimates, but concludes that a net increase of \$70,000,000 or more would be realized if the bill should be passed with reasonable promptness. The wool and woollen schedule should increase the revenue \$25,000,-000, even with decrease of half in the enormous imports of 1896, and the added duty on sugar \$20,000,000. The agricultural schedule is expected to yield \$6,300,000 more revenue, the linen and jute \$7,800,000, and each of the metals, tobacco and earthen and glass schedules \$4,000,000 more, while from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 each is expected from the liquors, lumber, cotton and silk schedules. More minute examination than is yet possible may disclose reason for doubt as to details, but the proved ability and the experience of the Republican members of the committee entitle their unanimous judgment to much con-

The first half day of the new era has indeed yielded good results. Such a message as that of President McKinley, and such a Tariff bill as has gone. Work to repair the harm done by four been offered to meet its recommendations, will of themselves do much to strengthen public confimachine starts into action at the touch of an dence, to give industries life and hope, and to

"MIDDLE OF THE ROAD."

The "Middle-of-the-Road Populists" have been having a high old time in Denver. Who precisely the Middle-of-the-Road Populists are, or why they so call themselves, we have never yet been able to make out. The average Populist, who has been swinging his arms and howling rectly apprehended him, with the middle of the He wants the middle and both sides, gutters, sidewalks, fences, stone walls, and all Populist is of both sexes. At Denver both appear to have been in full force. The dispatch conveying a report of the proceedings failed to meeting "adjourned after three hours' fighting." Not one word about other topics; no waste of | each man and each woman fought for the midthat was the occasion of the scrimmage. In is to turn to the right, collisions are avoided. but where, as in Colorado, everybody insists

> The women of Colorado enjoy the right to vote. That is to say, they have it, and so many on such matters. of them as exercise it seem to enjoy it. They pot only vote, but attend primaries and caucuses and conventions; they introduce resolutions, make extended and highly personal remarks, indulge in unparliamentary language, pull hair and raise-well-points of order. In the three hours' fighting at Denver it is related that "women were in the thick of the strug-'gle and in several instances instigators of the "attack." The first gun was fired by a woman. who charged one of the delegates with being a "hireling of the corporations," and refused to sit in a convention with him. The delegate so sin- know that Russia would not hesitate a moment gled out remarked that she was a liar. This at breaking it, and is indeed now coquetting with language would be considered unparliamentary tion. But it was also unchivalrous, and we rejoice to know that the woman's husband flew to

caives the Tariff bill proposed by Mr. Dingley, | mony and rigor of party politics. It is not recorded how this particular fight, which was only one in the three hours' fighting, came out. Let us hope that the Middle-of-the-Road gentleman who called the Middle-of-the-Road lady a liar got knocked out of the middle of the road

> Presently Mrs. F. W. Reed started another fight with the remark that she had seen too much of politics to blush any more, as that was a perfunctory effort that did the party no good. We don't quite understand why that should have started a fight, but it seems it did. Perhaps the Middle-of-the-Road men took umbrage because the Middle-of-the-Road women refused to blush at anything when they were moving heaven and earth to make everybody blush. Then Mrs. Alice Faulkner precipitated another rumpus by a eulogy of "Grand Old Man Waite," of bloody-bridles fame. From which it would seem that there are differences of opinion among the Middle-of-the-Road folks about the "Grand Old Man." But the highest old racket of the day was when Miss Holmes replied to a boller inspector, who had said that corporations were more powerful than Populist principles. Half a dozen voices shouted "That's a lie!" and men and women rose up and made a dash for the boiler inspector, who was driven out, fighting desperately all the way to the door, Miss Holmes demanding to know meantime why the men stood by and saw the women insulted. A Mr. Akers, who sided with the boiler inspector, was asked by Mrs. Reed-the woman who had stopped blushing-"if it wasn't time for him to go out and choke himself to death." To this gentle suggestion Akers replied that Mrs. Reed had not added anything to her reputation by going out as a street singer-which hardly seemed relevant. Thereupon Mrs. Reed and Miss Holmes, in the graphic language of the dispatch, "tore most of Mr. Akers's beard out of his face."

> We said at the outset that we had no idea who the "Middle-of-the-Road Populists" were, or why they so called themselves. We have a dim sort of suspicion, however, from the report of this meeting, that they are men and women who mean to have the middle of the road against each other and against all the world. That, of course, means trouble for themselves and everybody else. No wonder they had three hours' fighting, called each other liars, refused to blush, drove out the boiler inspector, and tore most of poor Mr. Akers's beard out of his face. When everybody insists on having the middle of the road there must always be trouble. The notion prevails pretty generally in Colorado that Colorado is entitled to the middle of the road and both sides; in fact, to the breadth of the whole continent. But so long as they do their fighting and hair-pulling and whiskerstearing at home and among themselves the rest of the world will look on with composure.

A HINT FOR THE SUNDAY CONFERENCE. An even greater degree of interest than usual in the results of the Sunday conference was felt yesterday by the large majority of Republicans in the Legislature who are not permitted to attend the weekly meeting, but are compelled to gather from the Monday morning papers their knowledge of the programme which they are destined to execute. Sometimes, no doubt, they are much embarrassed upon finding that the reports do not agree, in which case they have to wait for an absolutely straight tip until the elect return from the metropolis to the capital. In this respect their experience yesterday was less confusing and vexatious than they feared it might be, for as soon as they got their New-York papers they knew that the Pelice bill, the amend ments to the Liquor Tax law and the charter were all to be put through without a moment's unnecessary delay. This was a great relief to their minds, and enabled them to assemble last night in a serene and cheerful mood, such as is appropriate to the transaction of public business. We hope that they are duly grateful for the consideration which gave them an early understanding of the situation, though we do not admit by any means that the obligation is all on one side.

On the contrary, the advantage thus given to the majority of the Legislature is so obvious and so reasonable that the concession ought to establish a precedent. Heretofore the members of the Sunday conference have too often failed to show a proper regard for the convenience and the natural feelings of others. By taking a little more pains we are sure that they could always prepare a programme of legislative action for the ensuing week which would not have to be altered in any essential particular, and which, when properly authenticated, the newspapers would all print with perfect accuracy. It may seem a small matter, but the courtesy which we recommend is one to which the Legislature is really entitled. Besides, this is an era of reform.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE POWERS.

The Cretan crisis may or may not be tending toward a satisfactory settlement. It certainly is affording a striking exposition of the attitude. motives and purposes of the Great Powers toward the Turk and his oppressed Christian subjects. Every day adds to the fulfilment of the forecast made in these columns weeks ago, that Russia and Germany would be found to be the worst foes, and Great Britain the best friend, of Greece and Crete. That fact, indeed, has been established by the doings of the last few days beyond all further reasonable dispute.

Russia and Germany are bent on coercing Greece by sheer brute force on humiliating her to the utmost and on arbitrarily imposing such government as they please upon Crete. They sustain the Sultan and uphold his authority. That is entirely natural. They and Turkey have this in common, that their governments rest solely upon the alleged "divine right of transacted was to fight three hours and ad- kings." They do not believe that government journ. What the fighting was about, unless should be founded upon justice, certainly not upon the consent of the governed. For if these ser would probably be swept from their thrones reason Russia and Germany are unalterably opposed to letting the Cretans determine by a upon taking the middle of the road, we can plebiscite whether they shall be autonomous readily understand that friction, collision and like Samos, or annexed to Greece. The oppofighting must be the chronic condition. It sition is not because those Powers fear the wasn't strange, then, that the only exercise in vote would be for annexation, nor because they which these people indulged was three hours of think an honest vote could not be had, but because Nicholas II and William II do not be-

Great Britain, the Power that helped Greece to become a free and independent nation, is and has all along been in favor of such a plebisette and ready to acquiesce in its result, and is and has been opposed to any coercion or humiliathe "Concert of Europe" and to run the risk single-handed. There is no doubt that France agrees with Great Britain, and so does Italy. But France does not want to imperil her newly made alliance with Russia, although she must France's one great foe. And Italy hesitates to detach herself from the Triple Alliance, although nothing is more patent than that the senior member of that firm is intriguing with

incomparably more natural and logical combination than either of those now existing. What a splendid thing it would be if, to meet and counterbalance such a league, Great Britain, France and Italy would join hands and hearts! Above all other Powers in Europe, Great Britain and France ought to be fast friends. They are the two Great Powers of freedom and progress and true enlightenment. They are the Powers that are moved by moral ideas. They are the Powers that have a mission for the welfare of mankind. And they two leagued together could smile at a frowning world and speak the command of universal peace. Surely stale memories of Trafalgar and Waterloo, or petty pique over Egypt, should not stand longer in the way of the most auspleious compact the modern world has seen.

THE BRITISH NAVAL PROGRAMME.

The German Emperor wants to be a War Lord at sea as well as on the land. He aspires even to rival the naval power of Great Britain. Why not? The German mercantile marine has been marvellously developed in late years, and is at the present moment actually making its British rivals uneasy in some quarters. Why should not an autocratic Emperor build himself as big a navy as he pleases, and surpass that of his venerable grandmother? William II thinks he may, wherefore he asks a grant of 328,000,000 marks, to be used between the present time and the end of 1901, for the building, in that period, of four battle-ships, six cruisers, one gunboat, two dispatch-boats and three torpedoboats. There are now being built two battleships, seven cruisers and one torpedo-boat. And a supplementary request is made for 20,000,000 marks more, for two more cruisers. That is the War Lord's naval programme, to which the Reichstag seems unwilling to give its assent.

But what, on the other hand, is Great Britain's? The First Lord of the Admiralty has just revealed it. It calls for something more than (21,000,000; not, however, for four years, but for a single year. That is more than five times as much as the German appropriation asked for; and it will be granted, every shilling | port of Mr. Kriiger. of it. On the strength of this, work is to be begun on four battle-ships, three cruisers, two sloops, four gunboats and two torpedo-boat destroyers. That will make the roll of war vessels to be finished or to be under construction during the year to stand as follows: Fourteen battle-ships, 8 first-class cruisers, 9 second-class cruisers, 10 third-class cruisers, 2 sloops, 4 gunboats, 52 torpedo-boat destroyers, and 9 miscellaneous craft, a total of 108. And that programme will be repeated and enlarged each year. Such is Great Britain's answer to all Powers that would

venture to dispute her command of the sea. Mr. Goschen used to be banteringly called by his colleagues in the British Government the 'skeleton at the feast." At present he more aptly plays that role at the feasts of the rivil Powers. With more than 100 warships building at a time, with a total tonnage of 380,000 and a horse-power of 800,000; with half that number finished and put into commission every year; with more than 100,000 men in the naval service, and with a plethoric treasury to maintain and increase such work indefinitely, Britannia is truly discouraging all Powers or combinations of Powers that would seek to break her rule of the waves.

Well, here is a tariff for revenue, not for deficit

"Oom Paul" may feel some natural annoyance at Great Britain, although its people have filled to overflowing his erstwhile bankrupt treasury. But it will not do him a bit of good to call Queen Victoria "a fractious old woman." It isn't true, and it isn't polite. Just suppose she, in her next Speech from the Threes should say this "it have the long-distance telephone is not chean." Speech from the Throne, should call him "a boorish old man"! Wouldn't there be a ruction at Pretoria, not to mention Unter den Linden?

For a man wao feels, to use his own words, the "Corsican poniard of John P. Altgeld between in the booth for some time?"
his clayicles," the Hon, A. S. Trude, late candi"Oh, yes," he said. "I suppose your regular his clavicles," the Hon. A. S. Trude, late candidate for the Democratic nomination for Mayor of Chicago, is remarkably lively and forceful. I will continue with my party," he says, "if there is only one article in its blurred, blotted "and bloody creed remaining. I can't bolt. The "word is not in my lexicon." It is surprising that a vocabulary so rich in words beginning with "B" should lack the word "bolt." "The blurred, blotted and bloody creed" is good. The metaphor is obviously of a trolley victim. Nothing but an indiscreet attempt to occupy the same portion of mundane space as an electriccar ever makes a thing "blurred, blotted and bloody." Mr. Trude himself must have passed through an experience nearly as harrowing as vict, named Lewis Rogers, was recently allowed to the "trolley-victim creed." At any rate, he is take a cow to Yarmouth and back while the sun completely turned around. He evidently faces was bright and the air invigorating for a pleasant in the direction opposite to that in which his feet | walk. extend, for he locates his clavicles or collar bones in his back, having in mind the stealthy Corsican planting his poniard in that part of a man that he can't conveniently scratch.

In the can't conveniently scratch.

In the charges of the charges of the charges of the convenient of the charges of

Is anybody keeping tab on the changes of weather we have this month?

Germany says that if the peace of Europe is broken, England will be at fault, because she wouldn't go to war with Greece in behalf of the Turk. That is blame England can easily afford

The Curfew law, recently enacted in many Western towns, is not solving the problem, What shall we do with our boys?" especially between 9 o'clock p. m. and bedtime. A young woman, who evidently speaks from the bitter-"The company." The lurking fear that the terrible "wouldn't have had her die for five. She was a model wife."—(Cleveland Plain Dealer. ble "small boy" is somewhere about is certainly calculated to cast a damper on the courtship of the sister and her best young man, Looking under the sofa is not a guarantee that his terrible chuckle will not be heard in the midst of the most interesting and idyllic scene, for he is possessed of "a merry devil of ill-timed merriment," and his ingenuity is more than human. The tions is impossible. Then there is a public side to the question. The impairment of the leading industry of some of these Western towns which have the Curfew law is indirectly threatened through its operations. How is the great divorce industry to flourish, if any obstacle is put in the way of matrimony and its preliminary? lieve in letting the people have anything to say | Marriage is the indispensable condition precedent to divorce. The "entertainment of company" must go on. The curfew is doomed.

cles of food and of drink have failen heavily. This fall in prices has also extended to boots and tion of Greece. But she hesitates to break up shoes, to clothing and to many other things. But as a rule the owners of American springs stick of having to fight two or three of the Powers | to the figures which they put on mineral waters a quarter of a century ago or more. They exin the days when transportation tariffs were far higher than they are at present. This policy is injurious and unjust. The mineral waters from the well-known American springs in most cases are readily accessible, and are obtained in large quantities at little expense. They are put in barrels or in bottles at less outlay than in the period of a score of years ago, and they are carried by rail or by water at lower freight with a decisive vote sustaining the rules which give him power to get work done. Then it re-

Austria and Germany. That is, after all, an | sale of these waters would be increased enormously.

PERSONAL.

The young Queen of Holland, who is now "out, continue's to charm everybody with the grace and youthful dignity of her manner. Her Majesty, now that her hair is dressed high upon her head instead hanging down her back, looks very sweet, atthough she can scarcely be called a beauty. It is thought that the young sovereign will bestow her hand and heart upon Prince Bernhard of Saxe-Weimar later on in the year. Meanwhile, various suitors of German princely origin are pining for her spulies.

Sir Archibald Gelke will begin the cour lectures which he has been invited to deliver at Johns Hopkins University on April 21.

Professor W. Ramsay has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Academy Bohemia and also of the Academy of Sciences of Turin.

The marriage of Professor Henry A. Ward, or Ward's Museum, Rochester, and Mrs. Lydia Avery of Chicago, will soon take place. Professor Ward, who has become well known as geologist, was at college when the great geologist Agassiz delivered a lecture in a town twenty-eight miles distant. He missed the coaches on which the other students rode to the lecture and, rather than not hear it, walked the entire distance. When Agassiz heard about the wonderful performance of the student he sent for the young man and offered him the place of his assistant, a tender which was at once accepted by the collegian. He accompanied Agassiz to Europe and worked with him until the death of the famous investigator.

The German Commission for the study of the plague, which will soon start for India, consists of Professor Koch, Professor Pfeiffer (of the Institu tion for Infectious Diseases), Professor Gaffky (of Glessen), Dr. Disuderic and Dr. Sticker (of the Im perial Health Office). Professor Koch will go to Bombay on the completion of his investigations i South Africa, and till his arrival the leader of the Commission will be Professor Gaffky, who was with Professor Koch in British India during the great cholera epidemic of 1884 and assisted him in the researches which finally led to the discovery of the comma bacillus omma bacillus.

Mr. Wolmarans, unofficial member of the Trans vasi Executive, who has been decorated by the German Emperor with the Second Class of the Crown Order, is one of the strong candidates named as likely to contest the Presidency of the Transvaal is the probable event of President Krüger's retirement into private life at the end of his present term. Pos-sibly he may even receive the nomination and sup-

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Methuselah, the celebrated large black ant which Sir John Lubbock brought home about sixteen years ago, and which he studied to such good purpose, has just died. It lived in a cosey glass house on the naturalist's desk.

When They Tickled Him.—A teacher was one telling some children the story of the loss of th White Ship, and finished up by telling them that after hearing of his son's death, King Henry neve

smiled again.
One little girl in the class, on hearing this, said:
"Please, teacher, what did he do when they tickled him?"—(Answers.

The Dublin correspondent of "The Lancet" say that at an athletic contest held recently at Free mont, County Cork, a man named James Loder, eighty-two years old, covered thirty-three feet in three standing jumps. Several young men failed to come within three feet of this distance. Loder weighs only 112 pounds and is remarkably

Downing a Lie.—Editor's Wife-Pretty condition for you to come home in-staggering through the streets in broad daylight. Dilapidated Spouse-Couldn't help it, m'dear; been accused of (hic) bribery.

accused of (hic) bribery.

"Bribery?"

"Yes, m'dear; people said I was (hic) bribed to
pose pro'bition. Had to show folks I 'posed pro
tion m'own accord."—(New-York Weekly.

" 'Horror' parties are the rage in Missouri." The Kansas City paper from which this is taken doesn't mention it, but it is evident that yellow journalism has reached that town.

Talk over the long-distance telephone is not cheap. A Rochester man the other day talked a little while with a business man in this city. When he had finished, he asked the girl in charge: "How much

do I owe? "Are you aware," she said, "that you have been

charge for New-York is \$3 50?"

"Yes," she said in a businesslike way, "\$3 50 fo five minutes. Your bill is \$25 90." Dyspepsia Specialist (irritably)-But madam, you nust chew your food. What were your teeth given

nust chew your country out for?" Female Patient (calmly)—They were'nt given to ne—I bought 'em,—(Odds and Ends. The fail in Barnstable, Mass., is an easygoing place, E. C. Knapp, according to a local paper who is supposed to be serving a term of five years' sentence for stealing National bank funds, was recently seen in the streets in prison garb, giving the wife of the jaller, Mrs. C. H. Cash, bleycle lessons The convict 's said to occupy a place of congenta companionship in the jatler's family. Another con-

Dollie-I took off my hat at the theatre last

According to "The Medical Record," the Wisconsin Eclectic Medical College, the faculty of which say it holds a charter from the State of Wisconsin, but which does business in Chicago, has reduced the price of its diplomas from \$35 to \$20. sole requisite for graduation is to "send us your name in full exactly as desired in diploma, and we will on receipt of the same send on the diploma per express C. O. D., you having the right of examination before making payment of the fees.

"I want a death certificate!" said an excited indi-vidual, rushing into the health office yesterday after-noon. He got it, and was asked for the customary

oon. He got k, and ollar. "What's that?" he exclaimed, looking surprised.

A patent lawyer, with no visible axe to grind, has just presented a big St. Bernard dog to the President. And though the gift is probably all right, and not at all like that of the wooden horse palmed off on the unsuspecting Trojans, it might not have been amiss, before its acceptance, to have exposed it to the X ray for a while to see if any jobs were hidden away inside of it. The chances are that it is a strictly Constitutional animal; an honor to him that gives and him that takes it. It is likely to do as much credit to the Administration as Cleveland's dog did, to say the least, and is well en titled to the inheritance of the premises and the fleas of that surly and reactionary predecessor.

"This butter seems strong," said the young husband, at their aret breakfast at home.
"Yes," she answered, "I taiked to the market man about that, and he said it was economy in the end never to buy weak butter. He said that even though this might cost a little more, people could get along with less of it, and it would last longer."—(Washington Star.

In speaking of the plague, "The Indian Mirror" says: "How often have we not besought our countrymen to revive the religious practices enjoined in the Shastras, how often have we not entreated them to celebrate the Yagna ceremonies? Rishis were far greater sanitariars than those of the modern times calling themselves by that name. The Rishis also understood the causes of disease better. Let these Yagnas be performed simultane- | said they had with them a prisoner from Concord. pect consumers to pay as much now as they paid ously in all parts of Inlia, and we undertake to find netted him to open the jail. He did so, and say that not only will the plague disappear, but there will be a sensible mitigation of the famine. Huge fires, lighted in a hundred different places in town so distressed as Bombay, and fed with ghee, sandal-wood and the other ingredients used In the Yagna ceremonies, will destroy all the plague germs in the atmosphere, and free that city of its deadly enemy within a week."

Necessary Precaution.—Tramp (at kitchen door)— that cake smells temptin.

MUSIC.

"LOHENGRIN" AT THE GERMAN OPERA It is an excellent thing, on an occasion like that of last night at the Metropolitan Opera House to distinguish sharply between gossip, or "news," in the latter-day sense, and that criticism which possibly still occupies a position of respect in the minds of some opera-goers. A strong inclination to indulge in the former must have tugged at the heartstrings of nearly all the writers for the newspapers whom duty took them to the Metropolitan Opera House, He must have been a man of small fancy, indeed, who could avoid thinking of the contrasbetween the picture which the reports from Chicago have called up, of the scenes in the Auditorium there, and that presented to his eyes at the institution in upper Broadway, when Mme. Nordica appeared for the first time here in opera. Iuseparably associated with such thought was, of course, a recollection of the causes which led to the anomaous state of affairs now prevailing, and the conclusion that if there is satisfaction in a conscious ness of a vindication at the hands of the public Mme. Nordica must have enjoyed a measure, full and overflowing, last night. But such reflections, however natural, are unamiable, and it is pleasanter to shut them out and turn the attention to the delights that were afforded by the performance

The opera was "Lohengrin," and in addition to

Mme. Nordica's impersonation of Elsa, which did

not differ materially from that with which she

made the New-York public acquainted immediately after she had received an artistic regeneration at Bayreuth, the public were privileged to become acquainted with Mme. Lehmann in a new rôle. She appeared as Ortrud. Under the old Italian dispensation such an announcement as this would have been set down flatly as incredible. The prima donna (that is, the first lady of an opera troupe) singing a part which consorted her with the bar tone instead of the tenor, which compelled her to figure on the representation of the evil principle of the drama, and therefore to end her evening's career humiliated, defeated and even death-stricken? All things must be out of joint when such things happen; yet this is what Mme. Lehmann's notions of lyric-dramatic art led her to think a desirable thing. How different from the notions of Jenny Lind, for example, of whom it is told, on unimpeachable authority, that in "Robert le Diable"the opera in which she won her most emphatic trlumphs-she compelled her manager to make such wholesale elisions in the score that the character of the Princess Isabella disappeared from it, in order that no soprano should appear in rivalry with her. Such petty jealousies have no place in a nature completely consecrated to art like Mme. Lehmann's. Consequently, there was an Elsa in last night's "Lohengrin," and when the auditors carried away by the fine spirit with which the first act was sung and played, burst over and over again into plaudits which told of their grateful enthusiasm, Mme. Lehmann permitted her companion to gather the bulk of the fragrant guerdons. To those who have followed the growth of Mme. Lehmann's genius, however, there was little to cause surprise in her choice of the part of Ortrud. It is one which has blood in it." The character of Elsa is, after all, that of a gentle sentimentalist. At best she is a sort of Dora, who, had she not been so weak as to yield to curtosity, would probably have spent her days in holding her lord and master's sword upon lap and polishing the swan-figure upon his helmet, if, indeed, she had ever got over her propensity for dreaming. Ortrud is a different creature, so different, indeed, that even before the first performance of the opera Wagner took the trouble to write an exposition of her character to Liszt, in which he held her up as a type of the loveless woman, whom he considered the most awful thing conceivable. Besides all this she is a representative of ancient paganism projected into a time whose religious feelings found vent in such a con eption of the worship as the Holy Grail and the creation of a cult which required an organization of chivalric knighthood for its manitestation. Against a celestial soldier of this band she is forced to battle, without the help of one throb of sympathy from the other personages in the story, seconded only by a weakling. Here an artist like Mme. Lehmann recognized possibililes belonging to the loftiest realm of art, and she threw her whole soul and all the plenitude of her superb powers into their realization. She was the first Ortrud that has been seen and heard on our stage since the departure of Mme. Marianne Brandt, and no admirer of that early associate of hers will take offence if it is added that vocally she surpassed her and from a dramatic point, of view added elements not brought to notice by her. Nothing but grateful praise ought to be spoken f Mme. Nordica's performance of the part of

Elsa in both its aspects. Though she has acted and sung it here before in a similar spirit, with the same lovely understanding of its admixture of mysticism and tender affection, the same exposition of love temporarily turned away by force of wicked circumstance, she never ured quite so much of her warm heart's blood into it as last night. It was in all things a lovely and a lovable impersonation. Mr. Kraus, not feeling equal to all the work laid out for him this week, yielded the part of Lohengrin to Mr. Kalisch, who sang in an artistic manner (save in a few passages when he was overtaken by excessive sentimentality), and throughout. The others in the cast, like the stage settings, were scarcely up to the standard set by Mmes. Nordica and Lehmann, Mr. Stehmann as King, though he sang well, being deficient in voice; Mr. Mertens, the Herald, afflicted with an excess of emotion wholly out of place for one in his position, and Mr. Somer, while acting well as Telramund, not reaching the level on which he moved in "The Flying Dutchman." Ine audience yied in numbers with that of the most brilliant

FLOODS CAUSE LOSS OF LIFE.

A NEGRO FAMILY AND A WHITE CHILD DROWNED IN ARKANSAS-OTHER FATALITIES FEARED.

Memphis, Tenn.; March 15 .- The first loss of life resulting from the high water was recorded today, an entire negro family and one white child being drowned near Marion, Ark. It is believed that many have perished in that region, but news from there is difficult to obtain.

A levee on the Arkansas side, some fifty miles above, was swept away on Saturday night, but full particulars are not available, and whether fatalities followed is not known. The broken levee was a part of the old State system and incorporated in the St. Francis levee system. The water had a fall through it of about fifteen feet and rushed with great violence over the adjacent country, so that casualities are regarded as certain to have occurred.

A number of local vessels are actively engaged in rescuing people and stock from the overflowed sections of Arkansas, and the river islands, and hundreds of them are now being provided for in this city. The river is 36.4 here, a rise of nearly one and a half feet within fortyeight hours, and is still rising. It is also rising at Cairo, so that the rise here and below will continue for at least two days more.

continue for at least two days more.

This carries additional water over the bayeu banks in 'he northern part of this city, with consequent danger to residents in its vicinity, and they will have to seek more secure places. A Government steamer will join the relief forces

FAILED TO KILL THEIR VICTIM.

A NEGRO TAKEN FROM JAIL AND SEVERELY WOUNDED BY A MOB.

Lynchburg, Va., March 15.-William Clement, 6 negro, who was put in the county jail at Rust-burg last week for assaulting George Rosser, was taken from his cell at an early hour this morning and shot several times. Shortly before 2 o'clock this morning the jaffer was aroused by a crowd of men estimated to number about forty, who they rushed by him and broke into Clement's cell Clement fought so flercely that, although shot four or five times and desperately wounded, he man-aired to escape. The crowd, believing that he would soon die, then dispersed. This morning

would soon die, then dispersed. This morning Clement was found still living by the jailer, and was locked up again.

Clement is in prison for severely beating George Rosser, who reprimanded him for maltreating a team. Clement called Mr. Rosser out of the stable last Tuesday and beat him with a stick about the head, breaking the upper part of his check bone, and would have killed him had he not been driven off. In the stringele with the negro at the jail, several of the mob had their masks knocked off. The negro says that he recognized them, and it is reported that warrants have been issued for their arrest.